

09/725141

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/825,141 03/28/97 BAKER

J 06998/028001

DAVID L FEIGENBAUM  
FISH AND RICHARDSON  
225 FRANKLIN STREET  
BOSTON MA 02110-2804

LM41/0214

EXAMINER

OPSASNICK, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2748

DATE MAILED:

02/14/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.****Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

08/825,141

Applicant(s)

Baker et al

Examiner

Michael N. Opsasnick

Group Art Unit

2748



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to Req. for Reconsideration (Paper #13, filed 11/24/99)

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14

☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☒ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

KRISTA ZELE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700

Art Unit: 2746

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-14 are allowed over the prior art of record..
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claims 1,7, the recited claim limitation “receiving a spelling of the word, receiving an utterance of the word”, “comparing the spelling to a rules list of letter strings with associated phonemes”, “limiting the collection of possible phonetic pronunciation containing phonemes associated with the letter string of length greater than one” and “adding the word to the speech recognition vocabulary using the spelling and the best matching pronunciation” is not taught by the prior art of record. The prior art of record teaches the concept of writing subsyllable spellings to describe them (Hutchins, col. 24 line 50 - col. 27 line 16), however, Hutchins does not describe or suggest adding a word using a spelling and an utterance of the word. Brown et al (5293451) teaches the concept of using a weighted average of matching acoustic utterances and matching spellings of the word (Brown et al, 5293451, col. 2 line 10-35), however Brown et al (5293451) does not teach the use of “limiting the collection of possible phonetic pronunciations containing the phonemes associated with the letter string of length greater than one”. Examiner

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notes that Brown et al performs limiting the phonetic pronunciation set, but just to a letter string of one, i.e., one letter at a time.

As per claim 8, the recited claim limitation "matching first two letters of the word to classified words starting with the same two letters to form a sub-list of classified words" is not taught by the prior art of record. Examiner notes that Brown et al performs limiting the phonetic pronunciation set, but just to a letter string of one, i.e., one letter at a time. As per claim 10, the prior art of record does not explicitly teach matching the first phoneme of the word to a first word in the database having the same first phoneme, selecting the first word in the database having the same first phoneme and following words in the database to form a sub-list, matching the first phoneme of the word to the first phoneme of the classified words in the sub-list to form a class list, and placing the word in the class list. Hutchins does not describe adding a word to a speech recognition dictionary by assigning a prefiltering class to the word.

Claims 2-6,9,11-14 are allowable over the prior art of record because these claims depend from claims that have been determined to be allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. The application having been allowed, formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick whose telephone number is (703)305-4089.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Krista Zele, can be reached at (703)305-4701. The facsimile phone number for this group is (703)308-6296.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this applications should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Michael N. Opsasnick

February 12, 2000



KRISTA ZELE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE**

LM41/0214

DAVID L FEIGENBAUM  
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BOSTON MA 02110-2804

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/825,141	03/28/97	014	OPSASNICK, M	2748 02/14/00
First Named Applicant	BAKER, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION PRONUNCIATION GENERATION IN SPEECH RECOGNITION

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2. 06998/028001	704-254.000	125	UTILITY	NO	\$1210.00	05/15/00

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

**I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.**

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

**II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.**

**III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.**

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

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